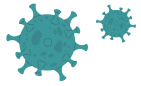


Santa Cruz County Public Health COVID-19 Emergency Response Executive Summary 2/4/2022



COVID-19 Case Trends – Surge is Declining

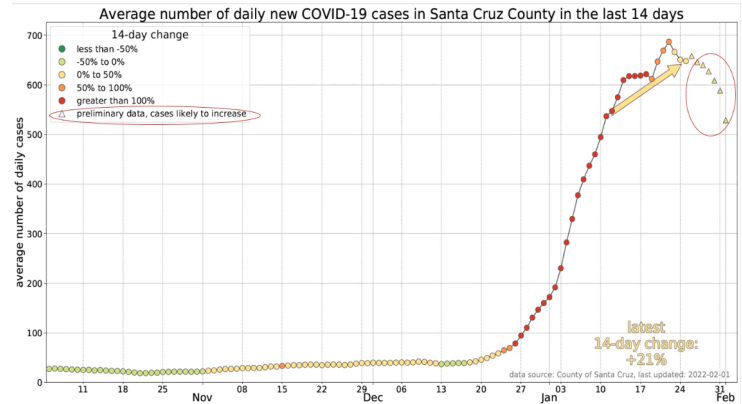
COVID-19 case rates continue to increase in Santa Cruz County. Public Health's surge response will focus on supporting the healthcare system, supporting the community with COVID-19 preparedness, and maintaining Public Health operations.

The 14-day change graph to the right indicates a flattening and possible decreasing trend.

- Reproductive number median estimate is hovering around 1, which indicates that **transmission is not increasing**.

Individual behaviors **DO** make a difference to **SLOW** the spread. What you can do during the Omicron surge:

- *Get vaccinated and boosted.*
- *Upgrade your masks.*
- *Improve ventilation and air filtration.*



Mask Resources

Public Health recommends that everyone upgrade their masks (*see graphic*). [Click here](#) for CDPH resources on how to get the most out of masking.

- Organizations throughout the county that serve vulnerable populations and communities are beginning to receive masks for distribution.
- The CA Office of Emergency Services now has high-grade masks and hand sanitizer to supply urgent health and safety services.

Upgrade Your Mask

Consider Fit, Filtration and Comfort

GOOD	BETTER	BEST
 Surgical Mask	 KF94/KN95 Surgical + Cloth	 N95
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="background-color: white; color: #003366; padding: 2px 5px; font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">FAIR</div> <div> <p>Cloth Mask</p> <p>One that fits well and has at least 3 layers. A cloth mask is better than no mask.</p> </div> </div>		

CDPH

Vaccinations

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) provides information on COVID-19 vaccines for children. Click below:

- [Vaccines for Children and Teens](#)
- [Vaccine Info for Children 5-11 years old](#)

CDC recommends everyone ages 5 years and older get a COVID-19 vaccine to help protect against COVID-19.

NEW! The Moderna COVID-19 vaccine received full Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval for use.

You can find COVID-19 resources and vaccine information at the [Health Services Agency COVID-19 Vaccine Webpage](#) or [My Turn](#).

All COVID-19 vaccine appointments are available at **no cost** and **regardless of insurance status**.

Testing

Get **free at-home COVID-19 tests** from the federal government. Countywide COVID-19 testing information is available at the [Santa Cruz County COVID-19 Testing website](#).

- **Optum Serve Testing Sites:** Open 7-days a week in Watsonville, Felton, and Santa Cruz. Click [here](#) to sign up for appointments.
 - On 2/9, the Watsonville site will move to 500 Westridge Drive in Watsonville.
- **Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds:** Monday-Friday 10am-5pm, Saturday 9am-3pm. Registration required. Link to register [here](#).

For individuals taking a COVID-19 rapid antigen test at home, it's important to follow [California Department of Public Health guidelines](#) and [test instructions for reporting](#).

Public Health Reminders

- Celebrate Lunar New Year and the Super Bowl safely and responsibly!
- Some ways to stay safe: wear a face mask when gathering in indoor public spaces, get vaccinated and boosted, stay home if you are sick, and get tested if you have symptoms.

